

# WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

*10 May 2026*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

17 May: Lord's Supper

21 May : Prayer meeting 7:30pm

20 June: Convention Fundraiser: Movie night



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dates for upcoming services:

10 May 4:00pm

24 May: NO SERVICE

7 June: 4:00pm

21 June: 4:00pm

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## VISITING OR NEW TO WONGA PARK OR MERENDA REFORMED CHURCH?

Jenna, our community engagement worker, would love to meet you and answer any questions you have about our Wonga Park church community.

Feel free to contact her on 0403650398.

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## Growth Groups

If you would like to join one of these groups or find out more, please see either Jenna or Chris.

Rob and Jenna - Tuesday nights 8pm online

Wendy ladies group Thursdays 10am @ church

Chris and Sarah Wednesday fortnightly 8pm

Adri and Alister: Wednesday nights 7:30pm. in person

Herman Linde: Monday nights, 8pm online.



# TERM 2 2026 SUPERDASH



## SOCIAL NIGHT

7: 30 PM @ Oz Tenpin Chirnside Park



## BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



## STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ Grace CRC (Langwarrin)



## BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



## BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



## CONVENTION FUNDRAISER

## MOVIE NIGHT

6 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



## BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

WONGA PARK CRC PRESENTS

# MOVIE NIGHT

## FUNDRAISER



**SATURDAY**  
**20 JUNE**

**6 PM**

**AT WONGA PARK CRC**

**REGISTER HERE**

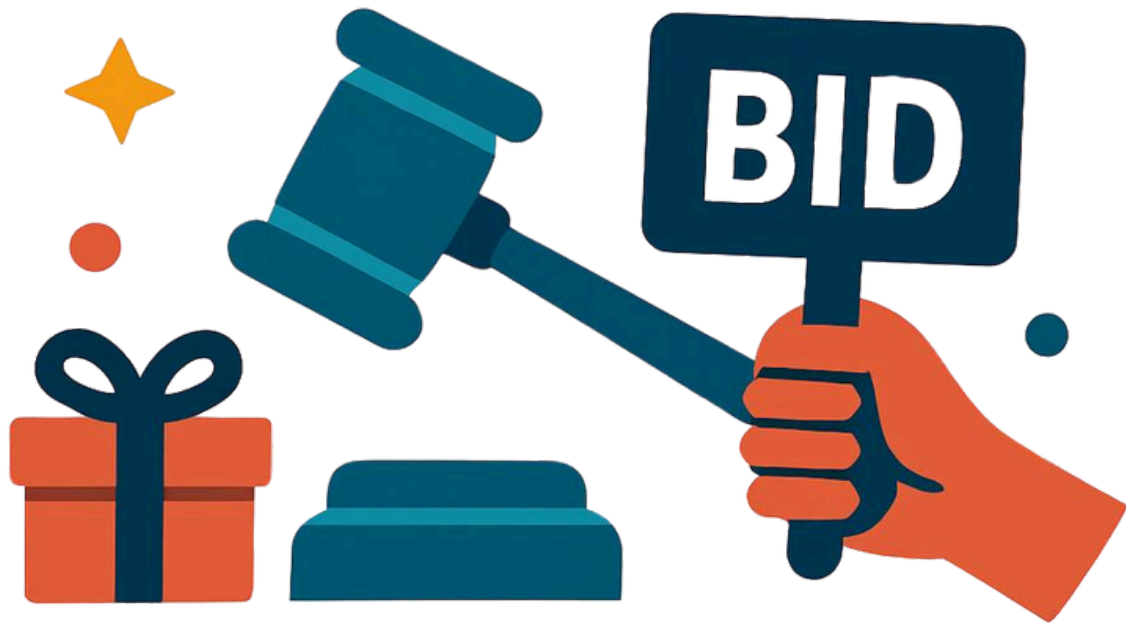


**PURPOSE**

All funds raised will help support our youth and young adults attending the upcoming CRCA Convention in WA (Jan 2027).



# **CALL FOR ITEMS** **SILENT AUCTION**



**TO RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR YOUTH GROUP  
ATTENDING CONVENTION IN 2027**



We are seeking donations of items, vouchers and sports memorabilia for our Silent auction fundraiser supporting our Youth Group attending Convention in Perth in 2027.

Please speak to Kasha, Dale or Leana if you would like to contribute.

# EVENT SCHEDULE



<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>29 April, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>13 May, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>27 May, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>10 June, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>
<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>20 June, 2026</b> AT 6:00PM</p> <p><b>CONVENTION FUNDRAISER</b></p> <p>@WONGA PARK CRC</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>24 June, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>28 June, 2026</b> AT 1:00PM</p> <p><b>SOCIAL</b></p> <p>LOCATION TBC</p>	<p><b>TWO WEEK BREAK!!</b></p>

 IF YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN OUR YOUNG ADULTS GROUP OR COME ALONG TO ONE OF OUR SOCIAL EVENTS, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU! SIMPLY CHAT TO INGE, MICHAEL, OR CASSIE AT CHURCH, OR SEND US A DM VIA OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE. 

Casey Christian Reformed Church of Casey is pleased to invite you to join us for our Ascension Thursday service. It would be a blessing to have you with us as we gather to worship, pray, and fellowship.

## Event Details:

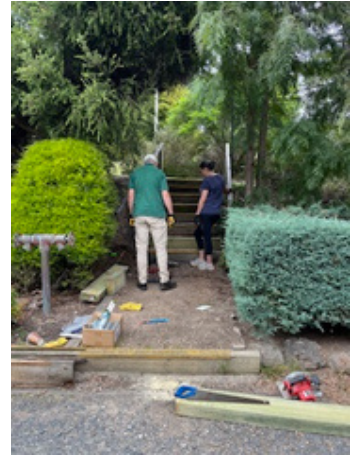
- **Date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026**
- **Time: 7.30pm start**
- **Location: 350-352 Pound Road, Narre Warren South 3805**

Please feel free to bring family and friends. We look forward to sharing this special time together. Light refreshments will be available after the service

Blessings

# Thank YOU!

Special thanks to Dale, Jo and Christo that fixed the steps! That was a massive task!

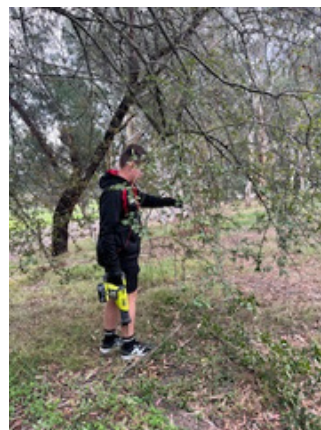


*Truly Grateful for you.*

THANKS FOR YOUR HARDWORK!



Thank you to young and old that showed up at the Working bee and worked really hard!



# PRAYER POINTS

## *Personal prayer points*

Father, please help us to show you our gratitude for who you are, for what you've done and for what you continue to do as we humbly bow before you in prayer.

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;

Humbling ourselves before our God asking him to show us works by which we can bear fruit and glorify him.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. (John 15:5&8 ESV)  
Give praise and thanks to our Lord Jesus for being the source of our strength, our wisdom, our love, our very life.

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## *Congregational prayer points*

Please pray for Anne Keegel as she is suffering from various health issues, pray that she will be healed and that the Lord will grant her his peace.

Please continue to pray for Ben and Lauren Palmer, pray that the Lord will grant healing and restoration to Ben.

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Mernda, pray that they will be encouraged with the progress that is being made.

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## *Local prayer points*

Please pray for our governments as they prepare budgets for the coming year, pray that their focus will be on the good of the country and not on their re-election.

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## *International prayer points*

Please continue to pray for all those caught up in conflicts especially those who profess Jesus as Lord. Pray that they will experience the loving presence of their heavenly Father.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Egypt, especially those from an Islamic background. The trial of an Egyptian Christian man imprisoned on charges related to his conversion from Islam and his attempt to change his religious designation on identity papers opened last week in Cairo. Said Mansour Rezk Abdelrazek was arrested in July under "terrorism" related charges. Apostasy is not illegal in Egypt, but changing the religious designation on official identity documents is practically impossible and leaves converts open to prosecution as a "national security threat."

Prosecutors brought multiple charges against Abdelrazek, according to advocacy group Coptic Solidarity, including establishing and leading a group in violation of the law; joining a group that was allegedly founded unlawfully; financing the group; promoting ideas and beliefs deemed "harmful to national unity and social peace," and showing contempt for Islam and challenging its fundamental principles. Abdelrazek's legal team on April 21 submitted several key motions, including requests to adjourn the proceedings in order to prepare a full defence, according to Coptic Solidarity.

The court granted the adjournment and scheduled the next hearing for June 15.

Abdelrazek has been held in Cairo's 10th of Ramadan Prison, where he has reportedly been deprived of basic necessities, including adequate food, clothing and medical care and hung in a "crucifixion" position. The hearing took place at Egypt's First Criminal Terrorism Circuit in Badr, in the eastern area of Cairo. International human rights groups have long criticized the Badr courts for opaqueness, lack of due process, depriving defendants of basic legal protections. Prolonged pretrial detention and limited access to attorneys are common. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) has designated Abdelrazek a religious prisoner of conscience, asserting that he was detained for his religious conversion and activity.

On July 22, Egypt's Supreme State Security Prosecution charged him with "contempt for Islam," joining a banned terrorist organization, inciting unrest and disseminating false information, according to USCIRF. "During detention, authorities and inmates physically and psychologically abused Abdelrazek for his conversion," the commission noted.

The defendant was represented by a legal defence team including the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights and the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms, as well as the office of Cassation lawyer Saeed Fayed. Legal, social and civil difficulties resulting from Abdelrazek's prior conversion to Christianity led him to flee to Russia in 2019, according to USCIRF. He sought asylum on religious grounds, but in 2023, Russian authorities arrested him for his connection to a privately filmed video that was purportedly offensive to Islam. His online posts about Islam reportedly had upset Muslims in Russia.

In 2024, Russia deported him to Egypt, which rights advocates said violated the principle of non-refoulement as he held documentation from the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees confirming that he qualified for international protection. The principle of non-refoulement is intended to protect refugees and asylum seekers from forced return to a country where they face a threat of persecution. Egyptian authorities arrested him, holding him incommunicado for about 10 days.

"When communication resumed, Egyptian authorities interrogated him about his religious beliefs and pressured him to reconsider his faith, monitor other converts, and asked him to delete his social media accounts," USCIRF states on its website. "Authorities ultimately released him with instructions not to speak publicly or proselytize." In July 2025, Egyptian officials again detained Abdelrazek without a warrant and charged him after he resumed posting his religious beliefs online and asked an attorney to help him change the religion designation on his identification documents. Abdelrazek has reportedly said that during that time, he was coerced into undergoing the painful removal of a Christian tattoo and was suspended for hours in a "crucifixion" position. Abdelrazek is still awaiting a decision on an application he filed in May 2024 for a humanitarian visa to Australia. "His fiancée is an Australian citizen and has appealed for urgent intervention, criticizing what she described as Australia's lack of meaningful diplomatic engagement," aid group Church in Chains stated.

Source: Christian Daily International

The next prayer meeting will be held on Thursday the 21st of May at 7.30pm.

# OUR GIVING, AN ACT OF WORSHIP

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In our Church we have two offerings every Sunday. The first goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various Christian causes. This week our second offering is for the Missionaries 3: Brendan Meyerink.

If you would like to support the work of you can do so by in Church giving - simply add your offering to the bag at the back of Church or by bank transfer -

BSB 063-167. A/C 1015-8356

If using bank transfer please indicate whether it is for the first offering "Sun1" or second offering "Sun 2" in the reference line. Or you can give online via our Church app.

<https://wpcrc.org.au/give>



Another way to make payments is by scanning this QR code.

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## SERMON DETAIL

*10 May 2026*

SERMON TOPIC: The Ruin of Pride and Rescue of Christ  
BIBLE TEXT: Obadiah (The whole book)  
PREACHER: Chris Pretorius  
ELDER ON DUTY: Peter Williams

OFFERINGS:  
1ST COLLECTION: The work of the Church  
2ND COLLECTION: Missionaries 3: Brendan Meyerick



# HELPING HANDS

	10 May	17 May	24 May
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius
Elder on Duty	Peter W	Martin	Peter W
Prayer Leader	Peter W	Martin	Peter W
Music Leader	Inge	Nelleke	Lorensz
Children's Talk	Joseph	Nicky	Janette
Bible Reader	Armin	Lynette	Lorensz
Welcoming	Marlene	Anne	Wendy
Sound	Ene	Nicolas	James
Visuals	Salme	Michael	Christo
Broadcasting	Isaac	Nina	Christo
Sunday School	Sarah & Brendina	Ilse, Lize S, Sarah	Ilse, Lize S, Sarah
Coffee	Steve & Brendina Saul	Dale & Jo Reed	Colin, Maggie & Lynette Pretorius



# BIRTHDAYS

Rebekah Viljoen	9 May
Gerry Smedes	9 May
Caleb Viljoen	12 May
Mackenzie Miller	12 May
David Steenkamp	13 May
Christo Theron	16 May
Lize Bezuidenhout	16 May
Anke van Pinxteren	17 May



## Who Should I Contact?

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Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	<a href="mailto:pastor@wpcrc.org.au">pastor@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	<a href="mailto:session@wpcrc.org.au">session@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Community Engagement:	Jenna Miller	<a href="mailto:jenna@wpcrc.org.au">jenna@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Church Administration:	Chris Pretorius	<a href="mailto:admin@wpcrc.org.au">admin@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	<a href="mailto:deacons@wpcrc.org.au">deacons@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Music Ministry:	Mia Van Wyk	<a href="mailto:miavwyk@gmail.com">miavwyk@gmail.com</a>
Sound & Visuals:	Michael van der Merwe	<a href="mailto:vdmichael02@gmail.com">vdmichael02@gmail.com</a>
Children's Talk:	Janette Fernando	<a href="mailto:janettefernando@iprimus.com.au">janettefernando@iprimus.com.au</a>
Sunday School:	Ilze Kellerman	<a href="mailto:admin@wpcrc.org.au">admin@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Youth Group:	Kasha Schubert	<a href="mailto:youth@wpcrc.org.au">youth@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Young Adults:	Michael van der Merwe	<a href="mailto:vdmichael02@gmail.com">vdmichael02@gmail.com</a>
Growth Groups:	Chris Pretorius	<a href="mailto:pastor@wpcrc.org.au">pastor@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Prayer Chain:	Herman Linde	<a href="mailto:herman.linde@live.com.au">herman.linde@live.com.au</a>
Facilities & Maintenance:	Riaan Bergh	<a href="mailto:deacons@wpcrc.org.au">deacons@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	<a href="mailto:newsletter@wpcrc.org.au">newsletter@wpcrc.org.au</a>

\* To contact telephonically please refer to the directory in the Church app